



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5346

February Session, 2010

* ____HB05346HS____032310____ *

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
CONCERNING THE WELL-BEING OF ALL CONNECTICUT CHILDREN
AND REQUIRING AN ANNUAL REPORT CARD EVALUATING STATE
POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IMPACTING CHILDREN.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) (a) The select committee
2 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
3 children, in consultation with the Office of Fiscal Analysis, the Office
4 of Legislative Research and the Commission on Children, shall
5 maintain and review an annual report card that evaluates the progress
6 of state policies and programs in promoting the result that all
7 Connecticut children grow up in a stable living environment, safe,
8 healthy and ready to lead successful lives. The first report card shall be
9 prepared on or before January 15, 2011, and annually thereafter.
10 Progress shall be measured by primary indicators of progress,
11 including, but not limited to, indicators established in the final report
12 of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee
13 prepared pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of public act 09-166, of
14 state-wide rates of child abuse, child poverty, low birth weight, third
15 grade reading proficiency, and the annual social health index
16 developed under section 46a-131a of the general statutes. For each
17 indicator, the data shall also be presented according to ethnicity or
18 race, gender, geography and, where appropriate, age and other

19 relevant characteristics. On or before January 15, 2011, and annually
20 thereafter, the report card shall be made available to the public on the
21 Internet and located on the web site of the General Assembly and shall
22 be transmitted electronically to (1) members of the joint standing
23 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
24 relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and to
25 human services, (2) the Commissioners of Children and Families,
26 Education and Public Health, (3) the Child Advocate, (4) the Secretary
27 of the Office of Policy and Management, and (5) the Chief Court
28 Administrator.

29 (b) On or before January 15, 2011, the select committee of the
30 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, in
31 consultation with a working group of representatives of state agencies
32 and departments, community organizations, private provider agencies
33 operating programs that impact the well-being of children and
34 families, parents and other caretakers of children, child advocacy
35 organizations, health care professionals that serve children and
36 families, schools, and child care providers, shall identify or develop (1)
37 an indicator for measuring whether children are living with their
38 families and have stability in their living environments, (2) secondary
39 indicators for measuring progress within each area of children's well-
40 being related to measuring progress in their health, safety, stability,
41 education and future success, including, but not limited to, food
42 security, and (3) key measures of performance of the state child
43 welfare system, including, but not limited to, (A) rates of repeat
44 maltreatment among victims of child abuse and neglect; (B) placement
45 in out-of-home care among children at risk of abuse and neglect; (C)
46 child fatalities involving child abuse or neglect; (D) rates of
47 reunification and permanency for children removed from their homes;
48 and (E) the developmental and health status and educational progress
49 of children served by the child welfare system and other appropriate
50 measures of well-being and preparation for success in life. At least
51 annually, the committee, shall: (i) With the assistance of the working
52 group, review the adequacy of primary and secondary indicators,

53 system-level performance measures, and related data resources for
54 such indicators and measures, and determine whether there are more
55 appropriate alternatives to monitoring progress in achieving the result
56 that all Connecticut children grow up in a stable living environment,
57 safe, healthy and ready to lead successful lives, and (ii) in consultation
58 with the results-based accountability subcommittee of the joint
59 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
60 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,
61 identify programs within the child welfare system that make a
62 significant contribution to achieving such result and require such
63 programs to prepare annual report cards employing the results-based
64 format developed by said joint standing committee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
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PRI *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R* HS

HS *Joint Favorable*